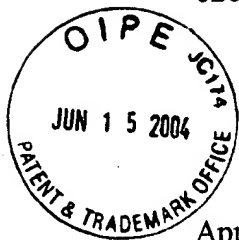


PATENT
Response to Office Action
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Pertti TORMALA *et al.*
Serial No. 09/988,777
Filed: October 20, 2001
For: JOINT PROSTHESIS
Group Art Unit: 3738
Examiner: Hieu Phan

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of December 18, 2003, Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time, extending the period of response up to and including June 18, 2004. The Office is authorized to charge Kenyon & Kenyon's Deposit Account No. 11-0600 for the extension of time fee.

Applicants submit the following amendments for entry and respectfully request reconsideration of the present application.

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